

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 60

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Edward Riley Anderson
of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of
the death of Edward Riley Anderson of Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, E. Riley Anderson was a public servant of the utmost ability and integrity;
his remarkable judicial career spanned nearly two decades and culminated in five terms as chief
justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, born in Chattanooga, Justice Riley moved to Knoxville as a child; he
graduated from Central High School in 1950 and received both his bachelor's degree and his
juris doctorate from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, after practicing law with the Oak Ridge law firm of Joyce, Anderson, and
Meredith from 1958-1987, E. Riley Anderson was appointed to a vacancy on the Tennessee
Court of Appeals by Governor Ned McWherter in March 1987, excelling on the appellate bench
during his three years of service; and

WHEREAS, he was elected to the Tennessee Supreme Court in 1990 and, in 1994, was
chosen by his colleagues to serve as chief justice; when he retired from the court in 2006, he
had served five terms as chief justice, longer than anyone else in the preceding forty years; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as chief justice, Justice E. Riley Anderson founded the
SCALES (Supreme Court Advancing Legal Education for Students) program, which sent
justices across the State to hold court for high school students, reaching over 25,000 students in
460 schools; in 2016, the program was honored with the prestigious Sandra Day O'Connor
Award for the Advancement of Civics Education; and

WHEREAS, Justice Anderson's other accomplishments during his time as chief justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court include reducing unnecessary delays in capital cases, spearheading the effort to adopt a rule permitting cameras in court proceedings, overhauling the Code of Judicial Conduct for judges, and helping create the Racial and Ethnic Fairness Commission, the Gender Fairness Commission, and the Statewide Commission on Foster Care; and

WHEREAS, a trusted leader in his profession, Justice E. Riley Anderson served as president of many legal organizations, including the Tennessee Chapter of Hamilton Burnett American Inn of Court, American Board of Trial Advocates, and Tennessee Defense Lawyers; and

WHEREAS, believing strongly in the importance of civic and community service, Justice Anderson was active with the board of the East Tennessee Foundation, the Boys Club of Oak Ridge, the Oak Ridge Charter Commission, the YMCA, the Mental Health Foundation, the Rotary Club, and the Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Pandy; his children, Colin Anderson, Karin Anderson, Scott (Teresa) Anderson, and Blake (Laura) Anderson; stepchildren, Sarah Woods, Tim Preston, and Emma Woodworth; and grandchildren, Brooke, Braden, Bailey, and Ella Anderson, Sean Barrett, Henry and James Woods, Hannah and Brendan Woodworth, and Scott Wheeler; and

WHEREAS, Justice Anderson was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Catherine Tillery Anderson; his brother, Joe Anderson; and a child, Riley Anderson, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we remember the life of Justice E. Riley Anderson, a bountiful public servant whose legacy will endure and inspire generations to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor the memory of Chief Justice Edward Riley Anderson, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and innumerable contributions to this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Justice Anderson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.